

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 9 Feb 58	2. LOCATION Chingmai, Bangkok	12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical Meteor <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 6:10 PM GMT 09/1110Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Civilian	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION varied- secs	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE W to E
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Several observers gave varying descriptions such as rocket shape to round & with various colors-white nose piece, orange body, black tail- white vapor trail with intermittent puffs of smoke or green vapor. Some claimed to have heard a rushing or swooshing sound. Most heard no sound.		11. COMMENTS Apparently a fireball.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

REF C
(Classification)

Due to the lateness in the day and lack of camping equipment to stay in the mountains, the party then returned to Sankampaeng and Chiengmai. Vice Consul gave the woodsmen a sum of money to hunt for the object.

On the following Saturday, February 15, 1958, Political Analyst [REDACTED] led a group of reporters and Sankampaeng officials back to the same area. They walked and camped in the area until Monday night, February 17, 1958. The results of their search were negative, although they did meet other people in the forest who gave eyewitness accounts essentially the same as the woodsmen. Some felt tremors, others did not. All said, however, the object was very low and apparently descending, and thus must have crashed.

Summary Comment

From the several reliable eyewitnesses interviewed, apparently some object was sighted in the sky. Altitudes given by both the French priest and the Americans in Chiengmai are questionable, since the object to have reached Chiengmai from the west would have required a minimum altitude of 4,000 feet, and to have hit "near the summit" or "just over" the mountains east of Sankampaeng would have to be moving at a minimum altitude of 3,850 feet. All eyewitnesses stated the flight was horizontal rather than vertical or at an angle, such as the path of a meteorite might be. Although some ground search was made, it was not extensive and the forest might well conceal an object until found by happenstance. A limited search of the area was made by Thai police helicopter.

No further action is being taken by the Consulate.

cc: AmEmbassy, Bangkok
Army Attaché, Bangkok

Astro (Fireball)

Note! There are instances of fireballs falling earth crashing with near horizontal velocity.
William E. Hussey,
American Consul

The above was reviewed by Dr. Robinson, and Capt. Drayton. Conclusion: Apparently a "fireball." The remark that any apparently horizontal trajectory would make this out is not a valid statement.

A number of fireballs have been reported throughout 1957 (See Case Files) -

REF C
(Classification)

AIR PRIORITY
PRIORITY

REF ID: A65462
(Security Classification)

09/21/1982
DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM: *Mulli* AmConsul, CHIANGMAI

DESP. NO. 11

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

March 1, 1958

REF:

APR 4 1958

67 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION FE-4 REC'D 3/17	DEPT. IN P.M.R.V. S/SA-11PC-8, P.5 F OTHER O 11A-12, 11S-9-10, 97 May. 4 1958-3 APR-3
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SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object Sighted Over Chiangmai

On Sunday, February 9, 1958, at approximately 6:10 p.m., various people in Chiangmai sighted a low flying object moving at high speed. Eyewitnesses, including several Americans, were of the general opinion the object was moving from west to east at an altitude variously reported as from 600 to 800 feet. An estimate of the object's speed was not ventured except by such statements: "as fast as you could turn your head," "like the rush of a jet plane," "as fast as a shooting star." Descriptions of the object were in general agreement: "like a ball of fire with white vapor or smoke trailing behind." Some few claimed to have seen a rocket-shaped object and described the various colors of the rocket (viz., white nose piece, orange body, black tail). Some claimed to have heard a rushing or swooshing noise as the object passed, but most said they heard nothing.

A single report was provided the Consulate by a French Catholic priest who stated that at 6:05 p.m. on February 9, 1958, he was on foot approximately sixty miles due west of Chiangmai when he sighted an object in the sky at an altitude of approximately 2,000 feet. He said the object was moving with tremendous speed, west to east, and appeared to him only as white vapor followed by intermittent puffs of green vapor or smoke. His impression of a shape was that it was round. There was no noise.

About mid-morning of the next day (Monday, February 10, 1958) reports were received from the town of Sankampaeng, 14 kilometers west of Chiangmai, that the object had landed in the mountains east of the town and that tremors as from an explosion had been felt. One report stated an object "as long as a big tree" had been sighted in the forest.

Action Taken

Vice Consul ~~John~~, with Political Analyst ~~John~~, and several Chiangmai newspaper reporters proceeded to Sankampaeng immediately. Here they interviewed various officials and townspeople who gave statements essentially as above. The group, augmented by a police guard and several officials, proceeded by Land Rover into the mountains and on foot when the oxcart track ended. Later, in conversation with some woodsmen who claimed to be eyewitnesses, they said the object sped by at a low height over the trees and crashed either near the summit or just over the other side. They said they felt earth tremors as though from an explosion or high speed impact.

Hussey/das

REF ID: A65462
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Retain in divisional files or destroy in accordance with security regulations.